

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following paragraph(s) for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification, with the new abstract, as amended below.

~~A axial~~An axial flow rotary valve rotatable within a bore in a cylinder ~~head (9)~~head of an internal combustion engine has a port extending from a peripheral ~~opening (4)~~opening to an axial opening at one end of the valve. The peripheral ~~opening (4)~~opening, which periodically communicates with a combustion ~~chamber (30)~~chamber through a ~~window (8)~~window in the bore, has a first trailing ~~edge (13)~~edge. The ~~window (8)~~window has a second trailing edge ~~(12)~~edge. The port closes from the combustion ~~chamber (30)~~chamber as the first trailing edge ~~(13)~~edge passes the second trailing edge ~~(12)~~edge. The edges ~~(12, 13)~~ are disposed such that the instantaneous intersection ~~point (17)~~point of the two edges ~~(12, 13)~~ progressively moves away from the axial opening over at least 50% of the length of the ~~window (8)~~window as the port closes.